

RABIES WARNING!!

Rabies activity has been reported in the Nogales area. Two horses from the Nogales area tested positive for RABIES in June 2009. The horses most likely contracted rabies from a skunk. To protect yourself and family, please take the following precautions:

- 1) <u>Vaccinate your pets for rabies!</u> Pet dogs & cats should be up-to-date on rabies vaccinations & dogs should be wearing current license tags on their collar. For information on rabies vaccination for your pets, please call your local veterinarian or Santa Cruz County Animal Care and Control Services at 520-761-7860.
- 2) Discuss rabies vaccination of your horse with your local veterinarian.
- 3) Keep pets on a leash when outside a fenced yard!
- 4) <u>Enjoy wildlife from a distance!</u> Do not attempt to feed, approach, or touch wild animals. <u>Do NOT shoot healthy appearing animals merely due to this warning</u>. If you see a wild mammal acting abnormally* in this area, report it to Arizona Game & Fish Department officials at 1-800-352-0700. <u>Hunters should wear rubber gloves when skinning any wild animal, even if the animal appears healthy.</u>
- 5) **Do NOT trap and relocate skunks!** Doing so spreads rabies to other areas.
- 6) If you or a loved-one is bitten by an animal, wash the exposed site immediately with soap and water & seek medical care. Be sure to report the bite to local animal control or public health officials. If such a bite occurs in city limits, call Santa Cruz County Animal Care and Control Services at 520-761-7860.
- *Note: <u>Rabid animals may show no fear of people and may even seem friendly.</u> Rabid bats typically fall to the ground where they become accessible to kids and pets. For more information about rabies, call Santa Cruz County Department of Public Health at 520-375-7900 or the Arizona Department of Health Services at (602) 364-4562, or visit our website at www.azdhs.gov.